Assignment: Final Portfolio

A portfolio is a collection of work that best represents the creator as a writer. This means that it might show your best work, but that it will also show who you are and your journey. The goal of this portfolio is to demonstrate your growth as a writer over the semester, showcase your best work, and thoughtfully reflect on your learning process. The reflective introduction will be the key element of your portfolio, setting the context for your work, identifying your strengths, and discussing areas where you have improved. You will not be required to revise; however, if you choose to do so, you will also use the reflective introduction to explain what changes you've made and why.

Portfolio Components:

1. **Reflective Introduction (2-3 pages)**
    - The introduction should provide a thoughtful reflection on your journey as a writer this semester. Discuss key experiences, challenges you encountered, and how you addressed them.
    - Highlight the most valuable lessons you've learned and how your writing process or style has evolved.
    - Mention specific examples from your work (like drafts, revisions, in-class activities, Inquisitive) that illustrate your growth.
    - Explain how selected pieces demonstrate your abilities, both as a writer and a thinker.
    - Be sure to organize your thoughts clearly and create a narrative that flows smoothly, tying together the elements of your portfolio.
2. **Essays and Drafts**
    - Include a final, graded draft of each major essay assignment. This allows you to reflect on and showcase your achievements and challenges across different assignments. This includes the reflective memo.
    - You may also include revised versions of these essays if you choose. If you submit a revised draft, include a short note explaining the changes and how they enhance the essay. **NOTE:** Revision is not editing. If you are going to revise, these changes should be substantive. Fixing a comma or typo **IS NOT** revision.
3. **Revision Letter (2 pages)**

    - This letter should reflect on any revisions you made to the essays included in your portfolio, whether you revised for the portfolio or chose to keep the original drafts.
    - Discuss the changes you made and why or explain why you chose not to revise. Describe how these decisions reflect your growth as a writer.
    - Be specific, referencing examples from the texts, and provide insights into how feedback shaped your revision choices.

Formatting Guidelines:

- Organize your portfolio in a logical, cohesive order. Start with the Reflective Introduction, followed by the essays with their drafts and revisions, and finally the revision letter.
- Label each section clearly, and ensure all materials are easy to navigate.
- Follow standard formatting (12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1-inch margins) unless otherwise specified.
- You can present your portfolio in a binder or folder. Make sure the work is somehow contained.

Grading Criteria:

- **Reflective Introduction** – Depth and insight in self-assessment; clarity, coherence, and development of ideas.
- **Essay and Draft Quality** – Completeness, quality of writing, and demonstrated growth from draft to revision (if applicable).
- **Organization and Presentation** – Clear organization, readability, adherence to format requirements, and overall polish.

Due Date:
Please submit your portfolio by December 2, 2024

The portfolio is worth 100 points. Revised essays will not replace original grades.